

Insight:

# Method lookup

*When you call a method on an object, Ruby follows predefined set of rules to find exact method to run. Knowing this rules will help a lot in your metaprogramming journey.*

# Method lookup

Methods are looked up in the object itself.

# 1) In the object

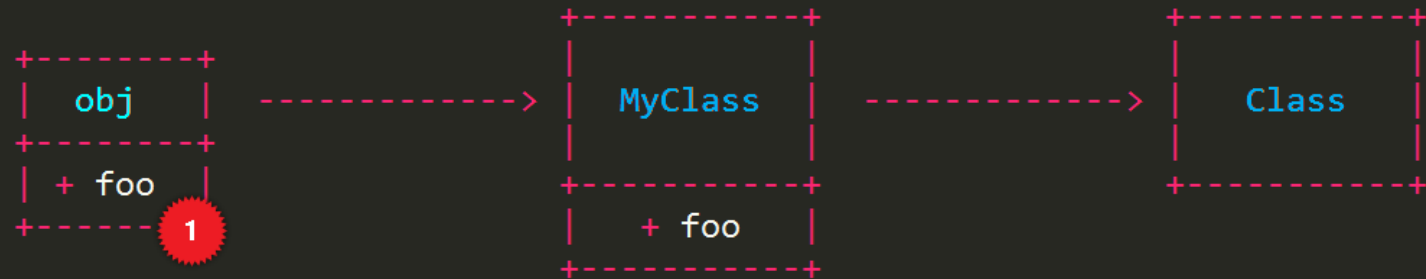
```
class MyClass
  def foo
    "Method foo in MyClass"
  end
end
```

```
obj = MyClass.new
```

```
def obj.foo
  "Singleton method foo"
end
```

```
obj.foo
```

```
# "Singleton method foo"
```



# Method lookup

Methods are looked up in the object itself.

If not found:

- Methods are looked up in the object's class.

## 2) In the object's class

```
class MyClass
  def foo
    "foo"
  end

  def self.bar
    "bar"
  end
end
```

```
obj = MyClass.new
obj.foo
obj.bar
```

```
MyClass.foo
MyClass.bar
```



# Method lookup

Methods are looked up in the object itself.

If not found:

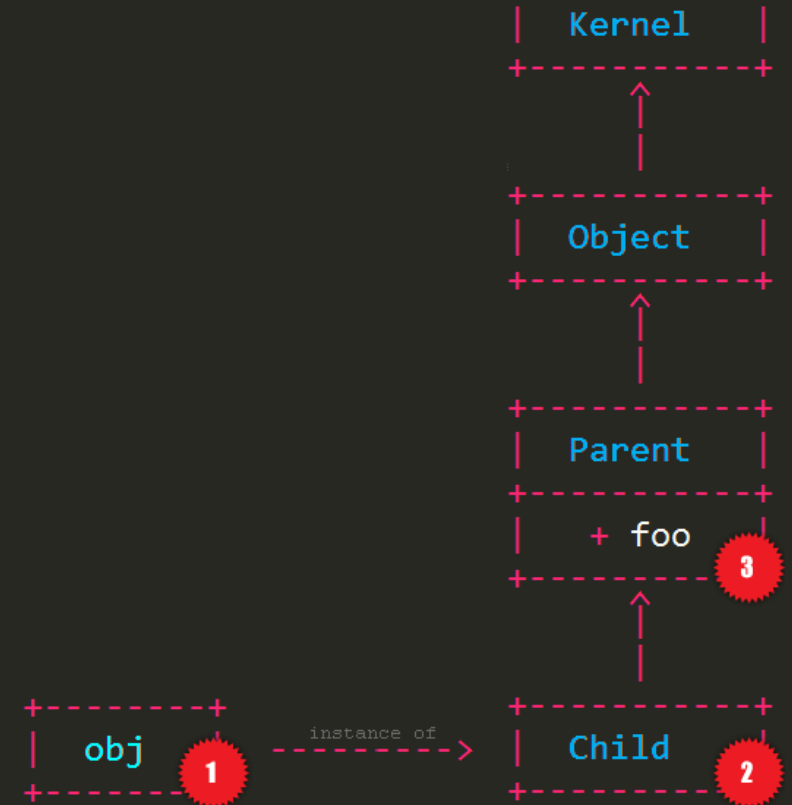
1. Methods are looked up in the object class.
2. Methods are looked up in class's ancestry tree.

# 3) In the object's class ancestry chain

```
class Parent
  def foo
    "foo in parent"
  end
end
```

```
class Child < Parent
end
```

```
obj = Child.new
obj.foo          # "foo in parent"
```



# Method lookup

Methods are looked up in the object itself.

If not found:

1. Methods are looked up in the object class.
2. Methods are looked up in class's ancestry tree.
3. Ruby calls `method_missing()` method on the object.



# 3) method\_missing() is called on the object

```
class MyClass
  def method_missing(method_name, *args, &block)
    if method_name == :foo
      # Method implementation
      "Hurray, I'm not missing!"
    else
      super
    end
  end
end
```

```
obj = MyClass.new
obj.foo
obj.bar
```

```
# "Hurray, I'm not missing!"
# NoMethodError: undefined method `bar' fo
```

### 3) method\_missing() is called on the object (cont.)

```
class Parent
  def method_missing(method_name, *args, &block)
    if method_name == :foo
      "method_missing in parent"
    else
      super
    end
  end
end
```

```
class Child < Parent
end
```

```
obj = Child.new
obj.foo
```

```
# "method_missing in parent"
```

# Object#method\_missing()

```
class Object
  def method_missing(method_name, *args, &block)
    raise NoMethodError, "undefined method '#{method_name}' for #{self.inspect}"
  end
end
```

# Method lookup and included modules

```
class Parent
  def foo
    "foo in Parent"
  end
end

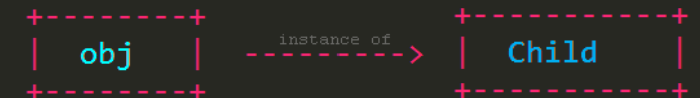
module Foo
  def foo
    "foo in module Foo"
  end
end

module Bar
  def bar
    "bar in module Bar"
  end
end

class Child < Parent
  include Foo
  include Bar
end

obj = Child.new
obj.foo
obj.bar
```

```
# "foo in module Foo"
# "bar in module Bar"
```



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